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PRESTON, SATURDAY, DEC. 5th, 1885.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION.—WHAT

NEXT? The state of parties betokens another elec-

tion within a measurable period, and we may now calculate what will be the possible effect and the price to be given to the "uncrowned king" for his support to the Conservative leaders. Now that the smoke has cleared away very materially from the field of battle, we may survey the tactics of politicians who have distracted the country with their eloquence, and produced a hurly burly of words which it is a comfort to know has at last come to an end. In foreign as well as home affairs there has been no complaint to be made with the ministers in power. This has been of the utmost service to the Conservatives, and has not been met by any counterbalancing cry on the other side. It must be confessed that Mr. Gladstone's programme lacked the fire r nervore, payment, and functional a facility that the fact and functional a feeling that the old champion of parliamentary power is approaching the end of his active career, and the rival aspirants for his political mantle feel that amongst themselves there is no one of surpassing genius whose claims to rule in the future is so pronounced as to be above fratricidal competition. Hence the Liberal party cry has been unequal in depth, and in some illustrious instances there has been conflict—Mr. Goschen has been opposed to Mr. Chamberlain, and Sir Charles Dilke has shewn a feeling of opposition to Lord Hartington. The only people who have been thoroughly in earnest appear to have been the followers of Mr. Parnell, and they have earned the reward of

their devotion to their leader by being supreme in Ireland, and capable of swaying the oscillating political balance in England. As soon as Parliament meets, the real struggle will commence; and, as parties stand, the elements of a speedy dissolution are even now manifest. What is to be the mission of the new Parliament? Nobody knows. The Con-DR, SYDENHAM'S MALATE OF CHLORAL is sold servatives, if called upon to take charge of in Bottles at Half-a-Crown and any chemist not having affairs, will try to merit office by bringing in some safe Bills, and governing wisely with the present machinery. They will attempt no particular measures of heroic legislation. They are under no pledge to do so. They have put forth no programme by which they are called upon to bring in any Bills either to pacify Ireland, revolutionize our system of AND THEIR IMMEDIATE REMOVAL. Land Transfer, or settle the question of Pain is a sign of disease, a warning not to be neglected, County Municipalities and the Liquor Traffic. The probability is, that the Conservatives—presuming, of course, that they take the political helm, which is not at all a certainty now-will boldly state that there are a certain number of questions which require to be settled, but which are not "party questions," and as such, they will invite the House to proceed by resolution, as in the second and third Reform Bills. If they do so, they will unite the

opinions of the moderate men on both sides, and that is the only way in which the Parnellites can be met, when they demand a separate Parliament for Ireland, as assuredly they will do. The Conservative party owe their present position to the support of Mr. Parnell; but if they attempt to purchase a continuance of such support by evincing a willingness to concede "Grattan's Parliament" to Ireland, they would be hurled from office by the indignant voice of the nation. No

ment what Mr. Parnell demands. To bring forward the parallel of Hungary is wide of the mark. Austria is not, and never was, a nation: she is a congerie of dukedoms, acquired by fortunate marriages, and prevented from falling to pieces by mutual jealousies. When flanked by Magyar revolution, on the

at Solferino, and she regained her prestige by

coming to a merely dynastic union with

Pesth. No such argument can apply to

Ireland. An independent Hibernia would

mean a Franco-Irish alliance. A semi-inde-

pendent Ireland would be a refuge for seditious

conspiracies. Neither could be tolerated for

an instant, and neither is within the range of

practical politics. It is, however, evident that

some step will have to be taken to satisfy the

aspirations of Mr. Parnell's party. The Lib-

eral members who march under Mr. Glad-

stone's banner will never consent to any

attempt to disintegrate the Empire. It is

must be proposed. Something must be

attempted. What, then, may be the forecast

of the situation? Every party wishes the

shrinks from the task. In such a case, it is

best to examine for ourselves what is practi-

cable, and how it can be carried out. There

seems but one course which will commend

English Minister dare propose to Parlia-

one side, and surrounded by race hatred on the other, she stopped her threatened dissolution, by coming to an understanding with taining this Remedy, it will be forwarded, carriage free, Hungary; but she did not attempt this until her Lombardo-Venetian States were shattered

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